

REMARKS

The above-noted amendment of claims 1-25, cancellation of claim 26 and the addition of new claims 27-45, as well as the submission of revised Abstract, are respectfully submitted prior to initiation of the prosecution of this application in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

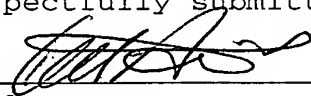
The above-noted new and amended claims are respectfully submitted in order to more clearly and appropriately claim the subject matter which applicants considers to constitute their inventive contribution and to conform them to all of the requirements of U.S. practice. No new matter is included in these additions and amendments. Moreover, the revisions to the Abstract are submitted in order to clarify and also to conform it to all of the requirements of U.S. practice. No new matter is included in these amendments.

In view of the above, it is respectfully requested that these amendments now be entered, and that prosecution on the merits of this application now be initiated. If, however, for any reason the examiner does not believe such action can be taken, it is respectfully requested that he telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any objections which he may have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the examiner is authorized to charge applicant's Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: October 8, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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